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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 12 AUGUST 1998 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 11 August 1998 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahhaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the fact that the United States Administration is continuing to interfere in Iraq's internal affairs in a manner that flagrantly violates the Charter of the United Nations and is in open conflict with the duties of a State that is a permanent member of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Identical letters dated 11 August 1998 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Further to my letters to you of 19 July 1998 (S/1998/663, annex) and 21 July 1998 (S/1998/678, annex), I should like to call your attention to the fact that the United States Administration is continuing to interfere in Iraq's internal affairs and to declare publicly, at the highest official levels, that it is doing so. On Monday, 3 August 1998, the White House announced that the United States Administration was endeavouring to overthrow the national regime in Iraq and that it was acting in coordination with the groups of outlaws and mercenaries that it calls "the opposition" in order to achieve this political objective.

Similar to this was a statement made by a spokesman for the United States presidency, P. J. Crowley, in which he said:

> " ... we look forward to having a new Government in Baghdad. Right now I think we're aimed at seeing how we can most effectively use the resources that Congress has provided for working with the Iraqi opposition".

Furthermore, on Monday, 3 August 1998, The Washington Post stated that a report had been submitted to Congress containing what it called a United States plan for the overthrow of the national regime in Iraq.

These statements were made in the context of the series of hostile actions being taken by the United States Administration against Iraq, and they illustrate the persistence of this Administration in interfering in Iraq's internal affairs in order to undermine its security and political stability and threaten its national unity.

These statements by the United States Administration provide further documented and official confirmation of hostile actions by the United States Administration against Iraq. They are proof that it is violating the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and that it is failing to honour its responsibilities under the Charter as a permanent member of the Security Council sharing responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. The statements made are also manifestly incompatible with the provisions of the Security Council resolutions relating to Iraq, all of which affirm respect for the country's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence.

The candid admission by the United States Administration that it is funding organizations of outlaws and agents of United States intelligence services who are nationals of Iraq so that they may conspire with it for the overthrow of the national regime in Iraq reflects a dangerous approach to international relations and is to be regarded as a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and as being blatantly incompatible with the duties of members of the Security Council vis-à-vis an independent State that is a Member of the Organization.

These statements by the United States coincide with other manoeuvrings and actions on its part in the context of the work of the Special Commission, and the United States Administration exploits its domination of the Special Commission and of its direction in order to serve its own anti-Iraq policy and, in particular, the endeavour to prolong the embargo imposed on the people of Iraq so as to achieve the dubious objectives of undermining the national regime of Iraq and destroying its sovereignty, security and stability.

The Government of the Republic of Iraq, in bringing to your attention the hostile actions being taken against Iraq by the United States Administration, requests you to raise the question of these official United States actions in the Security Council and to urge the United States Administration to halt these shameless and unlawful actions.

The Government of Iraq hopes that, given your responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations, you will take the necessary measures to ensure respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Iraq and to prevent the United States Administration from persisting in its criminal behaviour towards Iraq.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq